

Message Text

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 232

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TAGS: AORG ASAF FDIP UN UR PK UR

SUBJ: ENFORCEMENT OF NEW YORK PARKING REGULATIONS

SUMMARY: IN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN GREATER DEGREE OF RESPECT FOR NEW YORK PARKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS, USUN PROPOSES LIMITED COURSE OF ACTION INCLUDING TEMPORARY DENIAL OF DPL PLATES TO CERTAIN SERIOUS OFFENDERS. ADDITIONAL ACTION IS ALSO ENVISAGED IF NECESSARY. END SUMMARY

1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE UN DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HAS BEEN VERY LAX IN OBEYING NEW YORK CITY'S PARKING REGULATIONS TO POINT WHERE DURING LAST THREE MONTHS BOTH DIPLOMATIC AND COUNSLAR CORPS RECEIVED A GRAND TOTAL OF 31,375 PARKING VIOLATIONS. PRESSURE TO OBTAIN GREATER COMPLIANCE IS GROWING BOTH FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND FROM MEDIA. SINCE AT THE END OF THIS MONTH NEW YORK-BASED DIPLOMATS WILL RECEIVE DPL LICENSE PLATES OF THREE YEAR VALIDITY, PRESENT MOMENT SEEMS OPPORTUNE TIME TO CONSIDER SOME POSSIBLE MEASURES WHICH MIGHT PROVE EFFECTIVE TO IMPROVE SITUATION.

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2. USUN AND NEW YORK CITY COMMISSION FOR UN HAVE REVIEWED POSSIBLE

MEASURES WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN AGAINST THOSE MISSION DIPLOMATS WHO ARE PARTICULARLY GUILTY OF DISREGARDING REGULATIONS. DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE WITH THESE APPROACHES WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

3. EIGHTY-FIVE DIPLOMATS NOW HAVE TWO VEHICLES REGISTERED UNDER THEIR NAMES FOR DIPLOMATIC LICENSE PLATES; REMAINDER, ABOUT 1200, HAVE ONLY ONE SET OF PLATES. IN PRINCIPLE, WE PROPOSE TO LIMIT DIPLOMATS TO ONLY ONE SET OF PLATES ALTHOUGH WE WOULD NOT DEPRIVE THOSE WHO CURRENTLY HOLD TWO SETS OF SECOND SET EXCEPT IN THOSE INSTANCES WHERE THEY ARE MAJOR VIOLATORS OF PARKING REGULATIONS. THIS WOULD INVOLVE DENIAL OF A DUPLICATE SET OF PLATES TO SOME 20 INDIVIDUALS. SECONDLY, WE PLAN TO TAKE TOP TWO VIOLATORS FOR THREE MONTH PERIOD MENTIONED AND PLACE THEM ON PROBATION BY ISSUING ONLY REGULAR (NON-DPL) SERIES OF PLATES TO THEM, SUBJECT HOWEVER TO REVIEW IN SIX MONTHS PERIOD. IF THEIR RECORD OF VIOLATIONS DROPS SUBSTANTIALLY, WE WOULD THEN AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF THREE YEAR DPL PLATES. TWO INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED ARE MR. HENRY LUYIRIKA, ADMINISTRATIVE ATTACHE OF UGANDAN MISSION AND MR. KHALID ALI, PRESS ATTACHE OF PAKISTAN MISSION WITH 163 AND 152 VIOLATIONS OVER THREE MONTH PERIOD RESPECTIVELY.

4. OTHER MEASURES WE HAVE ENVISAGED INCLUDE SENDING OCCASIONAL MESSAGE TO OUR EMBASSIES, THROUGH DEPARTMENT OF COURSE, CALLING SENDING STATE'S ATTENTION TO SERIOUS DISREGARD OF NEW YORK LAWS AND REGULATIONS, POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF DPL PLATES AND SUBSTITUTION OF REGULAR SERIES PLATES FOR PARTICULARLY SERIOUS VIOLATORS, AND IN EXTREMELY FLAGRANT CASES INVOLVING PRESISTENT SERIOUS VIOLATORS, WE WOULD SEEK IN CONSULTATION WITH UNSYG FOR REMOVAL OR EXPULSION OF OFFENDERS. DEPARTMENT'S EXPRESS APPROVAL WOULD OF COURSE BE SOUGHT.

5. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT SOVIET MISSION IS WORST OFFENDER IN ABSOLUTE NUMBERS OF VIOLATIONS OVER THREE MONTH PERIOD (3,609). WE ARE CERTAIN TO CLASH WITH SOVIETS SOONER OR LATER ON THIS ISSUE WITH POSSIBILITY THAT THEY WILL TAKE SOME RECIPROCAL ACTION AGAINST OUR DIPLOMATS IN MOSCOW.
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